

HONORING CHIEF WARRANT
OFFICER CHRISTOPHER NASON

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 8, 2003

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a fallen soldier, U.S. Army Chief Warrant Officer Christopher Nason, a dedicated patriot who gave 19 years of his life to military service. Mr. Nason was killed in a motor vehicle accident while serving in Iraq on November 23, 2003. Mr. Nason is survived by his sister Gina Nason.

A young man seeking focus in life, Christopher Nason enlisted in the Air Force in 1985 at the age of 20. Nason attended the Defense Language Institute (DLI) in Monterey, CA in June of 1995 through May of 1996, where he excelled in his studies of Arabic. He became a warrant officer in 1999 and was assigned to the 306th MI (Military Intelligence) Battalion out of Fort Huachuca, AZ before he was deployed to Iraq. Those who knew him best reflect on his transition into a strong and irreplaceable member of the armed forces and mourn the loss of their friend, brother and leader.

As an expert in the Arabic language, Chief Warrant Officer Nason's services were extremely valuable to the Army, both in combat and in the classroom. After graduating from the DLI in 1996, he taught intelligence officers Arabic at both the DLI and Fort Gordon, GA. As a respected member of the DLI faculty, he successfully fulfilled the mission of the institute by helping to develop proficient linguists who would then be utilized for a variety of missions that would support national security interests. The DLI, located in my congressional district, is the world's largest foreign language school. It is the Department of Defense's only foreign language school that not only educates soldiers, sailors, marines and airmen in mission-specific foreign languages, but also on the history, culture and current events in the region in which their language is spoken. The courses are intensive and demanding as well as incredibly adaptive, in order to reflect U.S. military priorities around the globe.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful nation, I would like to offer condolences to Officer Nason's family and friends, as well as to those service members who will no longer benefit from his exceptional leadership. This nation was privileged to have a person of his caliber serving in our armed forces.

CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF
JAMES CULLEN WILLIAMS

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 8, 2003

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a pioneer in the legal profession. J.C. Williams of Cleveland Heights, Ohio passed away recently at the age of 82. His efforts to provide legal services for low-income people through President Lyndon Johnson's War On Poverty have set the standards for these practices to this day.

A native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, he served in the Army during World War II. He

went on to graduate from Wilberforce University and received his law degree from Western Reserve University in 1949. He worked as an assistant police prosecutor in Cleveland before joining the poverty program.

A lawyer with the Legal Aid Society for 22 years, J.C. Williams served as director of offices throughout the 11th Congressional District of Ohio, in the Hough, Glenville and Central communities of Cleveland. After joining the society in 1966, he developed a collective bargaining program for landlords and tenants in Hough in which they could settle disputes by turning them over to third-party arbitrators. He served as a lawyer for needy clients until his retirement from the society in 1988. He maintained a private practice until his death.

J.C. was a member of Saint James A.M.E. Church. He was also an active member of the Ohio and Norman S. Minor bar associations, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., and the Ambassador Social Club.

It is because of his commitment to the community and desire to help those less fortunate that I wish to acknowledge the contributions of J.C. Williams on behalf of the Congress of the United States and the citizens of the 11th Congressional District. J.C. Williams was an outstanding man who will always be remembered for his outstanding good deeds to his community and beyond.

CONGRATULATING SYLVESTER
CROOM AND MSU

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 8, 2003

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sylvester Croom, who was named head football coach of the MSU Bulldogs on December 1, and to salute Mississippi State University for its wise choice in athletic leadership.

Mississippi State University chose Coach Croom based on his skill, his talent, his experience and his resume. While race was not a factor in the decision, I am mindful that Coach Croom becomes the first black head football coach in the NCAA Southeastern Conference. I am proud that it is a Mississippi institution that has broken that color barrier.

Coach Croom was born in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Growing up in Mississippi's eastern neighbor, he played as starting center at the University of Alabama under legendary Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant. After securing a bachelor's in history, Croom played professionally with the New Orleans Saints. He returned to the Crimson Tide as a graduate assistant (obtaining a master's of educational administration) and as a linebackers coach.

He has served on the coaching staff of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, the Indianapolis Colts, the San Diego Chargers (making it to the Super Bowl) and the Detroit Lions. Mississippi's gain is Wisconsin's loss. MSU gains Croom as head coach as he concludes a strong season as running backs coach for the Green Bay Packers where he has been on staff with Coach Mike Sherman since 2001.

MSU is the flagship university in Mississippi's Third Congressional district. Located in Starkville, Scott Field is home to Bulldogs and cowbells. We are proud to welcome Syl-

vester Croom as MSU's 31st Head Football Coach. He will replace the most winning coach in Mississippi State's history, Jackie Sherrill, who retires this year with a distinguished and honorable legacy.

I salute MSU President Charles Lee and Athletic Director Larry Templeton for their wisdom in this decision and once again congratulate Sylvester Croom and the Bulldogs.

Mr. Speaker, there is no doubt in my mind that Coach Croom will make us proud in Mississippi. We are already thrilled and excited about the prospect of our future together.

IN MEMORY OF JUDGE LARRY
KINNAIRD

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 8, 2003

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Judge Larry Kinnaird, who died on November 24, 2003 at the age of 63. Judge Kinnaird, born in Ashley County, was a close personal friend, and I am deeply saddened by his tragic death. I wish to recognize his life and achievements.

Judge Kinnaird spent his entire life in Ashley County. Graduating from Hamburg High School in 1958, Judge Kinnaird worked for Georgia Pacific Corporation for 26 years. In the 1960s, he served as Justice of the Peace for six years. In his free time, Judge Kinnaird enjoyed both hunting and fishing.

Most recently, Judge Kinnaird was elected to the post of Ashley County Judge, and served as County Judge for nearly five years. During this time, he was a member of the Arkansas Judges Association and served on the Southeast Arkansas Judges Association Executive Committee. Judge Kinnaird was also actively involved in the SEARK Economic Development District.

My heart goes out to his wife of 44 years, Emmie Crenshaw Kinnaird, their daughters, Donna Shields and Tammy Streeter, and three grandchildren, Drew Shields, and Shelby and Sky Streeter.

RECOGNIZING KYLE EVAN
VULGAMOTT FOR ACHIEVING
THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 8, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kyle Evan Vulgamott, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 60, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Kyle has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the eight years Kyle has been involved with scouting, he has earned 64 merit badges and has held numerous leadership positions, serving as Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Den Chief, Troop Historian, Bugler, Quartermaster, Patrol Leader, Musician, Librarian, and Assistant Patrol Leader. Kyle has also participated in High